

Finance Committee
April 7, 2008
5:45 PM

Minutes

Call to order: Chairman Deeds called the meeting to order at 5:52pm

Roll Call: Present for roll call was Mr. Deeds, Mr. Jarvis and Ms. Mershon.
Also in attendance: Mayor Ebert, Nanisa Osborn (Finance Director) and Christopher Strayer (Development Director).

Mr. Jarvis moved to excuse Mr. Paini, Mr. Deeds seconded the motion.

VOTE: **AYES:** **Ms. Mershon, Mr. Deeds, Mr. Jarvis**
 NAYS:
 Motion carried.

Ms. Mershon moved to approve the minutes from the February 4th, 2008 meeting. Mr. Jarvis seconded the motion.

VOTE: **AYES:** **Ms. Mershon, Mr. Deeds, Mr. Jarvis**
 NAYS:
 Motion carried.

Pended Items: None at this time

New Items for Discussion

04-08 Bed Tax Grant Applications - Please see separate book with applications and summary. Action Needed: Determine Grant Amounts forward to Council

Ms. Mershon stated that we have \$42,000 in Bed Tax and asked what is collected in a year's time. Ms. Osborn answered that \$45K is collected and \$30K goes to the City, leaving \$15 for the Village.

Ms. Mershon stated that the requests are for more than double what will be brought in this year. Ms. Osborn also clarified that there is a balance making the total available to give out, \$34,450.36.

Ms. Mershon is concerned that we should not be giving out more than we are taking in and setting up the expectations of these affiliations.

Mr. Jarvis agrees in conception, in practice, we still need to make provisions.

Ms. Mershon asked which the Village contributed to last year and did their request go up for this year. Osborn stated that the After Prom request is the same, The Adventures for Wish kids is one half of last year's request, Main Street Football for food and Canal Winchester Education Fund is the same as last year. Canal Winchester Human Services is up from last year. Relay for Life did not apply last year. \$19,000 was given to the Historical Society last year, but it was given out of the General Fund, not the Bed Tax.

Ms. Osborn suggested that if they wanted to grant all of the applications, some of them could be allocated to come from the General Fund, though it would take an amendment to the Appropriations Committee.

Mr. Jarvis would like to have a further breakdown of what the money would be used for with the Historical Society. Mayor Ebert and Mr. Deeds agreed.

Discussion of the various organizations and their requests ensued.

After Prom, Adventures for Wish Kids and CW Education Fund are time sensitive.

Mr. Jarvis believes that recommendations for these three should be taken before Council due to their time constraints. The others will be discussed at the next meeting after receiving more information from the Historical Society.

Recommendations for these organizations are for the requested amounts.

Mr. Jarvis moved that these three recommendations be taken in front of full Council. Mr. Deeds seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES: Ms. Mershon, Mr. Deeds, Mr. Jarvis

NAYS:

Motion carried.

**04-09 Update to Wage Summary – Swimming Pool Positions adjustment to
Minimum Wage Action Needed: Sponsor for legislation**

Ms. Osborn stated that the Minimum Wage has changed and the Swimming Pool Positions wages must be changed accordingly. Ms. Osborn also made calls to surrounding area pools to find out their wage scale and her recommendation to raise both the minimum and maximum wages are based on this information.

Mr. Jarvis asked about privatizing the Concession Stand. Mayor Ebert stated that there was a company that was initially interested, but after careful review of the menu and scheduling, they declined. Mayor Ebert still holds out hope that this will be looked into again in the future.

Mr. Deeds asked if the wage increase was taken into account when determining the 2008 pool budget. Ms. Osborn stated that the minimum wage increase was taken into account. The only thing that wasn't accounted for was the pool being open earlier than past years; May 24th, 2008.

Ms. Mershon will sponsor this legislation.

04-10 Ordinance to Amend to Pickerington Sewer Contract to change billing for Pickerington Customers. Action Needed: Sponsor for legislation

Ms. Osborn clarified that the original contract allowed for the Village of Canal Winchester to collect and bill for the water and sewer usage for some Pickerington residents. This new legislation will allow for Pickerington to take over the billing and collecting from the customers. The Village of Canal Winchester will bill Pickerington and they will pay the Village directly. The existing debt will remain the Village's and anything that goes unpaid will be assessed to taxes.

Dr. Bender is the sponsor for this legislation.

04-11 Resolution Accepting the recommendations of the Fairfield County TIRC regarding the Enterprise Zone for Princeton Delivery Systems. Action Needed: Sponsor for legislation

Ms. Osborn stated that this is a resolution accepting the recommendations of the Fairfield County TIRC. This year, the TIRC has decided that Princeton Delivery Systems has met their requirements and their recommendation is that the agreement be continued. Legislation must be put forth accepting their recommendation.

Mr. Jarvis will sponsor this legislation.

**04-12 Resolution in Opposition to the legislation pending before the Ohio General Assembly to eliminate Mayors' Courts in Ohio and urging the General Assembly to defeat said legislation
Action Needed: Sponsor for legislation. In addition would request suspension of the rules and passage on first reading due to the hearings that are scheduled this week.**

Ms. Osborn is asking that a resolution be passed on emergency to state the Village of Canal Winchester's opposition to House Bill 154. Ms. Osborn distributed paperwork with proposed changes to HB 154. She stated that these changes address some of her concerns, but not all of them. HB 154 is set for hearing before the Legislature this week, with testimony again next week. Ms. Osborn believes that HB 154 will be very expensive for every jurisdiction in Ohio and yet does not fix the problem that's out there. It would be preferable to just fix the problems

where they occur. The issue is not with the way that the courts operate, the problem is with Mayor's that still preside over the Court and are using the Court and the police department as a revenue stream for their jurisdiction. That can be addressed by doing things other than what is currently being proposed in HB 154.

Mr. Jarvis stated that he was of the understanding that when the Village switched from having a Mayor preside over Court to a Magistrate, that it was because of legislation that was passed. He asked why other Courts have not complied. Ms. Osborn clarified that Franklin County Courts were notified that they were expected to switch to a Magistrate, however no official legislation was passed.

Ms. Osborn stated her main issues with House Bill 154. First, Mayor's Courts would become a court of record, meaning that we would have to have a court reporter and operate as the Court of Common Pleas operates. Also, at this time, if someone doesn't like the outcome of Mayor's Court, they have the option of starting over fresh in Municipal Court, as if the Mayor's Court never happened. With the proposed legislation, any appeals of Mayor's Court decisions would have to go to Appeals Court.

Ms. Mershon will sponsor this legislation.

04-13 Resolution to confirm appointments to Fairfield Co TIRC and Franklin Co TIRC Action Needed: Sponsor for legislation

Ms. Osborn stated that John Sayer and Dixie Fahner are being recommended to the Fairfield Co TIRC and recommends that Steve Donahue and Ken Morely be appointed to the Franklin Co. TIRC.

Mr. Jarvis will sponsor the legislation.

04-14 Creation of CRA (Community Reinvestment Area) for the Waterloo / Cemetery Area

Mr. Strayer refers to a map of the Community Reinvestment Area. He stated that he is trying to get businesses to come in and redevelop the area. The original idea was to TIFF the area and use the proceeds to purchase the vacant properties and allow the developers to purchase the property and do a development project. However, TIFF money is not allowed to be used for the purchase of property.

Mr. Strayer, instead, suggests using a CRA property tax abatement would help subsidize the costs for a developer and get some new businesses into the area. Only 60% of the property tax could be abated, as the school's portion would still be collected which would not be as enticing as other areas in town, but it is still something to be used to our advantage.

Discussion of the areas possibly affected ensued.

Development Director's Report: Nothing further

Finance Director's Report: Nothing further

Other Business:

Mr. Jarvis moved to adjourn this meeting of the finance committee and was seconded by Ms. Mershon.

VOTE: **AYES:** **Ms. Mershon, Mr. Deeds, Mr. Jarvis**
 NAYS:
 Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 6:51 P.M.